

TELLS WHY STATE LEVY IS HIGHER

Auditor Howard Issues Statement Explaining Increase in Taxes; New Buildings for Eleemosynary Institutions Figure Largely in It

LESS MONEY FOR CURRENT EXPENSES

No Surplus Left from Preceding Year; Growth of Institutions is Shown, Resulting in Necessity for Larger Cost of Maintenance

OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb. 14.—State Auditor E. B. Howard, in response to many requests, has prepared a statement explaining the factors that enter into the higher tax rate of this year. The statement is in part as follows:

"As to the 1915 assessment, when the present board of equalization began to make the assessment they found that the 1915 legislature had made appropriations for deficiencies which had to be covered by the tax levy this year, of \$1,466,881.33, and that to this there must be added the 20 per cent for delinquent taxes, making a total of \$1,760,257.59 in deficiencies that a levy was necessary to cover. However, we found that there were estimated cash receipts that could be charged against this in the amount of \$572,553.27, after the deduction of which left a net deficiency levy for the year 1915 of \$1,187,704.32. This amount, while treated as a deficiency appropriation by reason of being designated by the legislature for the year ending June 30, 1915, was in reality an appropriation covering expenditures made for the purpose of building new buildings at the Oklahoma hospital for the insane at Supply, for purchasing the hospitals for insane at Norman, buildings at the East Oklahoma hospital for insane at Vinita, for buildings at the feeble-minded institute at Enid, buildings at the blind school at Muskogee, buildings at the deaf and dumb school at Sulphur, improvements, etc., at the Oklahoma state penitentiary and reformatory and for the permanent improvements at the different educational and eleemosynary institutions, including buildings at the university at Norman and the central state normal school at Edmond.

"After finding the levy necessary to cover these deficiencies to be a mill, we found that for state expenses for the current fiscal year 1916 the legislature had appropriated \$2,007,785.17, which it will be noted is about \$17,000 less money for expenses for the year 1916 than was appropriated for the year 1915. The board, however, found it necessary to add the 20 per cent for delinquents, which made a total to be raised for this current year of \$2,489,342.26. Making an estimate of \$1,115,013.51 as an income from sources other than ad valorem taxes, this leaves the sum of \$2,374,328.75 to be raised by an ad valorem tax levy, which upon an assessed valuation of the state of \$1,387,164,328 it will be found that it was necessary to make a 2 mill levy to raise this amount. The difference, therefore, in the levy of 1915 and of 1916 being that while there was less money appropriated for current state expenses, the state board of equalization did not have the \$1,216,113.81 surplus to fall back upon, as was the case for the former year. Consequently it was necessary to make a higher levy to meet the expenses as per the appropriations.

"In addition to this, the last legislature passed a highway law which requires that the state board of equalization make a levy of one-fourth mill for highways. This was a new state levy, but is in no way used for taking care of any state expenditures, the law providing that all of it shall be returned to the counties from which it came. It will be seen from the foregoing that it had not been necessary for the legislature to build buildings and make the improvements for which appropriations were made, and had the board of equalization had the surplus referred to, it would not have been necessary to have made a tax levy for 1916 any higher than this one for 1915.

"Of course, naturally the citizens are interested in knowing why these deficiencies referred to were necessary. The only reason I can give is that having been connected with the state government for the last five years, I have been cognizant of conditions. In 1911, when I became a member of the state board of public affairs, I found that the average population of the Oklahoma state penitentiary was 1,050, while today we have 1,441.

"At the reformatory there were 170, as against 377 this year.

"About 15 patients were being cared for in 1911 at the institute for feeble minded, as against 200 for the fiscal year.

"At the hospital for the insane at Fort Supply there were 300 patients, as against 386 at this time.

"At Norman there were 964 patients, as against 1,050 at this time.

"At the Vinita asylum there are 614 patients, an institution which was not in existence in 1911.

"The blind school at Muskogee in 1911 had 8 pupils, while today its enrollment is 83.

"At the deaf and dumb institution (Continued on Page Three.)

HARDWARE COMPANY EXPANDING

"Chickasha is growing better and better with each passing day; all lines of business seem determined to spread out in order to keep pace with the city and we are spreading, too," was the information handed out at the office of the Gilkey-Jarboe Hardware company this morning.

"And this company is spreading out, in real earnest, retaining the old quarters, occupied for so many years at 116 South Third street, as an exclusive wholesale department, this company is opening up one of the largest retail hardware stores in Southern Oklahoma, 'just around the corner'.

The wholesale department, at 115 South Third, will be under the management of J. F. Smith, formerly with the Nichols Hardware company of Tulsa, who will push the wholesale trade and 'so get the business.' The retail department will move from its present location, giving way to the wholesale department, in a few days to the quarters now being placed in readiness at 225-227 Chickasha avenue and 197 South Third street. This department will be under the direct management and supervision of S. J. Jagers, one of the best retail hardware men in this section of Oklahoma.

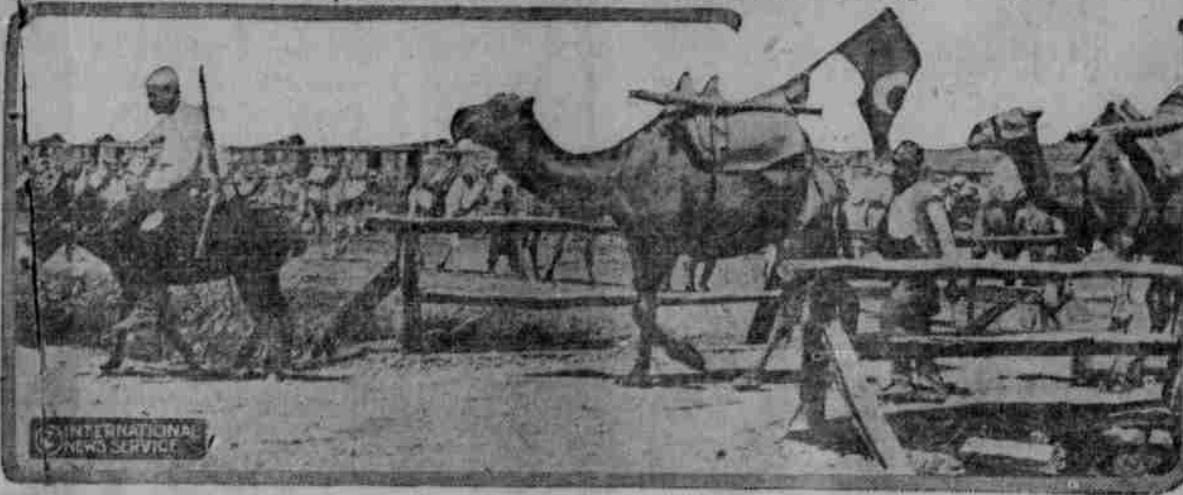
Mr. Jagers was for years connected with the Vitellio-Rabon-Ross Hardware company of Madill, one of the largest retail hardware concerns in the state, and knows the entire alphabet of the business.

NICHOLAS RIABOUCHINSKY



M. Nicholas Riabouchinsky of Moscow, now in America as the representative of Russian capitalists who are making extensive preparations to build munition factories in the land of the czar. Owing to the official prohibition of the sale of vodka, the savings banks in Russia now contain the equivalent of \$1,500,000,000 more money than ever before, and if American business men would extend credit to Russian business men, the people of Russia would return tremendous profits, says M. Riabouchinsky.

MILITARY CARAVAN OF THE TURKS



This is a Turkish military caravan arriving at the junction station of Namur.

ARRIVAL OF GASSERS IS AWAITED

Mayor is Informed that Representative of Franchise Seekers is Coming This Week; Council Meeting to Be Called

Mayor Coffman stated this morning that he had heard nothing from the parties seeking the gas franchise in Chickasha, further than the communication received Saturday afternoon that the papers would be ready for submission some time during the present week.

Mr. Coffman stated this morning that the party with whom he was in communication Saturday had stated that one or more representatives of the proposed company will be here at the time the franchise will be submitted to the council.

"Just as soon as the papers in the matter arrive, and just as soon as the parties interested get here," said Mr. Coffman this morning, "I shall call the council together so that all details may be entered into and threshed out. Of course an election will have to be held in order that the people may decide whether or not they want natural gas, but I feel that will be only a formal matter, as I have been assured by practically every business man in Chickasha, in fact, by a majority of the citizens of the city, that the people here will be in favor of granting a franchise."

Continuing, Mr. Coffman stated that he had been given to understand that should the franchise be granted, the pipe lines would all be in and the gas ready for the consumer by the 1st of August, 1916.

The franchise which will be asked by the company will probably call for a price of 25 cents per 1,000 feet to individual consumers, with a rate of approximately 10 cents per 1,000 feet for factories and other large users, it is reported.

GUILTY IS PLEA OF 3

Saturday afternoon, before Judge Davenport, in the case of the State of Oklahoma vs. D. C. Nevins, charged with refusal to dip cattle, the defendant pleaded guilty and was assessed a fine in the sum of \$25 and costs.

In the matter of the State of Oklahoma vs. C. Hurst, indictment by the grand jury, charged with transporting intoxicating liquors, defendant pleaded guilty and was fined \$50 and given 30 days in the county jail.

In the matter of the State of Oklahoma vs. J. Baker, indictment by grand jury, defendant pleaded guilty and was assessed a fine of \$50 and given a jail sentence of 30 days, on charges of transporting intoxicating liquors.

WILSONS ATTEND VALENTINE PARTY

By United Press. WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. President and Mrs. Wilson will make merry at a real, old-fashioned St. Valentine's party, given by the Congressional club tonight.

The president for the evening will put aside international crises and the other grave concerns that have engaged him almost ever since the war began. The spirit of the evening may be imagined from the nature of the valentine that will be presented to Mrs. Wilson upon her arrival; an old-fashioned nosegay in a lace paper holder. The only reminder of present day affairs will be the secret service men who will search the club house this afternoon and attend the party tonight.

Only members of the Congressional club have been invited and the list of guests has been submitted for President Wilson's approval.

M. C. Cannon of the Oklahoma National bank is confined to his home by illness.

WILSON IS WILLING TO RUN AGAIN

Declares Will Not Enter Into Contest But Consents to Use of His Name on Ohio Primary Ballot

By United Press. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.—President Wilson has written to Secretary of State Hildbrand of Ohio, giving his assent to the placing of his name on the primary ballots in that state, as a formal announcement of his candidacy for re-election.

In his letter the president says: "While I am entirely unwilling to enter into any contest for the nomination, I am willing to permit the use of my name that the Democrats of Ohio may make known their preference in regard to the nomination."

"In order to satisfy the technical requirement of the Ohio statute, I hereby consent to the use of my name as a candidate for the presidency by any candidate who seeks to be elected as a delegate to the national convention."

Orpet was going to take Miss Youker to the prom but her illness prevented it. He promised to write her about the dance. The night of the prom found Orpet in the hands of the authorities. The friends of Miss Youker say she will stand by Orpet when she is told about it.

NEW PASTOR DELIVERS TWO ABLE SERMONS

Rev. John A. Wray preached Sunday morning and evening to large and appreciative audiences. The sermons Sunday were the first preached by Dr. Wray since being called to the pastorate of the First Baptist church.

The beautiful words of the morning sermon, on "Prayer," and the logical and eloquent pleadings for right living, in the evening subject, "For Jesus' Sake," made a lasting impression on the congregation.

Dr. Wray, has long been recognized in Georgia and especially in Florida, where he has made his home for the past six or seven years, as not only a great and fearless preacher, but a platform lecturer of no mean ability.

ASSISTANT TO BEETS BEATS IT

Arthur Ogle, who was fined \$25 in Mayor Coffman's court Saturday for using profane language, being drunk and having knucks on his person, was turned over to Street Commissioner Beets this morning to put to work on the streets of Chickasha. One hour after the time the gentleman was turned over to him, Commissioner Beets showed up at police headquarters and stated that he was shy a perfectly good prisoner.

Ogle evidently failed to appreciate the opportunity which Beets was affording him of learning the practical end of landscape engineering. At least Beets formed that opinion after learning from the workmen upon the streets that his student had deposited

PLANT IS DAMAGED

By United Press. SCENECTADAY, N. Y., Feb. 14.—It is reported that serious damage was done by a mysterious fire at the munitions plant of the General Electric company this morning.

The officials of the company declare that the plant was only slightly damaged, but policemen say it was put out of commission.

FUNERAL OF GRAND INSTRUCTOR OF I.O.O.F. WILL BE HELD HERE

P. H. Steel, grand instructor of the Odd Fellows grand lodge of Oklahoma, died at Comanche Sunday morning and will be buried in the Odd Fellows' cemetery here Tuesday. The body will arrive on No. 24 Rock Island at 2 p. m. and Odd Fellow funeral services will be held at the grave at 3 p. m.

All Odd Fellows are requested to meet at the hall, corner Fourth street and Kansas avenue, at 1 p. m. to attend the funeral. Street car service to the cemetery will be arranged to take all who can go to the funeral.

ONE SPEEDER—FIVE SIMOLEONS "How's the speed bug coming on this morning, Mr. Mayor," was the question propounded by his honor at the city hall just after the morning spasm of the police court. "Fine and dandy," was the reply. Seems that offenders are sitting up and taking notice. We had one case today, however, James Driggers, charged with speeding. He sent down a five spot with which to liquidate and I guess won't do it again."

His working tools on the edge of the sidewalk and departed for haunts unknown. The last seen of Ogle, Mr. Beets stated, he was told, was when he disappeared over the Frisco addition, screened in a cloud of dust.

WEATHER FORECAST. For Oklahoma.

Tonight—Fair, warmer; Tuesday, fair, warmer in east portion.
Local Temperature.
During twenty-four hours ending 8 a. m. today:
Minimum, 37 degrees.
Maximum, 32 degrees.

CHICKASHA GIRLS WIN AND LOSE GAME AT MANGUM

The Chickasha high school girls' basket ball team divided honors with the Mangum girls in two games at the latter place last week. On Friday night they lost by a score of 10 to 9, and on Saturday night they defeated their opponents by a score of 11 to 9. They two teams were almost evenly matched. The Chickasha guards showed up especially strong. Miss Byars accompanied the local girls to Mangum.

BRITISH CRUISER HIT MINE

By United Press. LONDON, Feb. 14.—The British cruiser Arethusa, which has figured in some of the most thrilling naval exploits of the war, struck a mine off the coast.

Announcement of the disaster was made by the admiralty today. Fears were expressed that the vessel was a total wreck. Ten members of the crew were lost.

French Cruiser Sunk.
By United Press. PARIS, Feb. 14.—The French cruiser Admiral Charner carried 374 men when it was sunk off the Syrian coast, according to dispatches. Only one of the crew was saved.

Germany recently reported that a French warship was submerged there on Feb. 8.

COTTON CONSUMED IN JANUARY REPORTED

By United Press. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.—The amount of cotton consumed in January was 542,055 bales, according to the report issued by the census bureau today.

Of the total consumed 298,415 bales were used in the cotton growing states. Linters totaled 95,498 bales and exports, including linters, reached a total of 529,415 bales.

GEN. SIR PERCY LAKE



Lieut. Gen. Sir Percy Henry Noel Lake, who has just succeeded Gen. Sir John Nixon as commander of the British forces in Mesopotamia, has had a brilliant career in India and Egypt. He received a medal in the Afghan war of 1878-79 and also one in the Wolseley Nile expedition of 1885. Later he reorganized the Canadian militia. He left Canada in 1911 to assume command of a division in India, but since 1912 he has been chief of the general staff in India.

BULGARS TO JOIN WITH AUSTRIANS

Occupy Albanian City and Moving Westward to Cut Off Italian Retreat; First British are Called to Colors Under New Act

WITH MOBILIZATION ROUMANIA IS READY

Defenses Along Danube and Carpathians Finished; Aeroplane Attack on Milan; American Newspaper Woman in Grave Danger in Monastir

By United Press. SOFIA, Feb. 14.—According to information obtained here today, the Bulgarian forces occupied the Albanian city of Elbassan, Saturday.

It is reported that the Bulgars are now moving westward, cutting off the retreat of the Italians from Durazzo.

The Bulgarians have now advanced to within less than 20 miles from the Austrians.

Conscription Enforced.

By United Press. LONDON, Feb. 14.—The first proclamation calling unmarried men who are eligible to military service under the conscription act was posted today at Wallasey, near Liverpool.

Mobilization Complete.

By United Press. PARIS, Feb. 14.—According to advices received here today, the mobilization of the Roumanian army is now complete.

It is also reported that the Roumanians have completed their defenses along the Danube and the Carpathians.

Italian City Raided.

By United Press. ROME, Feb. 14.—Six persons were killed by Austrian aeroplanes in a raid on Milan last night, according to dispatches received here today.

Virtually a Prisoner.

By United Press. ATHENS, Feb. 14.—Mrs. Walter Farwell, a prominent Chicago woman, who is virtually held as a prisoner by the Bulgars in Monastir, was left entirely unprotected by the expulsion of all neutral consuls from that city.

Anglo-French air squadrons are frequently raiding Monastir, raining bombs on the Bulgarian camps and increasing the danger to the American woman.

Mrs. Farwell was acting as correspondent of a Chicago newspaper when the Bulgars occupied the city several weeks ago. At that time she was roughly handled by soldiers who raided the American Red Cross headquarters and confiscated a quantity of flour.

Greek officials are willing to co-operate with Americans to secure the release of Mrs. Farwell, but American Minister Croppers and Consul Kehym refused to act without advice from the state department.

RESPECTED CITIZEN CLAIMED BY DEATH

Word was received at an early hour this morning by Claycomb and Anderson, undertakers, of the death at his old home, seven miles south of Chickasha, of Alex. Gaines, an old and highly respected citizen of Grady county. Mr. Gaines had been in his usual health and spirits at the hour of retiring last evening. Shortly after 1 o'clock this morning deceased awoke his wife and tried to tell her something. Becoming frightened Mrs. Gaines arose and lighted a lamp, only to discover her husband was seemingly passing into unconsciousness.

A physician was summoned, but Mr. Gaines died within a short time of his arrival. Besides his widow, deceased is survived by one son, Henry Gaines of Chickasha, and by a married daughter, who resides in Illinois. Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon from the First Baptist church at Ninnekah. Interment will be made in the Ninnekah cemetery.